

**Remarks**

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejection of the claims in view of the remarks set forth below. Claims 1-21 remain in the application. Claims 1, 12, 15 and 21 are amended, and claims 2-11, 13-14 and 16-20 remain unchanged.

**35 U.S.C. §103**

Claims 1-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cooper (U.S. Patent No. 5,489,947) in view of Min et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,462,746 B1). Under U.S.C. § 103, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all of the claim limitations (MPEP § 706.02(j)).

It is respectfully submitted that claim 1, as amended, is patentably distinguishable from Cooper and Min et al. Claim 1 is amended to recite, inter alia, the step of "storing a plurality of different headers associated with the pixel map in the memory, *each header containing the memory location of the pixel map* and a unique display characteristic." Support for this amendment is found in the application on page 9, lines 14-17. Applicants respectfully propose that the references do not teach the image processing method of amended claim 1.

Specifically, as noted in the office action, although Cooper discloses a method for storing a pixel map and an associated header in a memory, Cooper fails to disclose storing a plurality of different headers associated with a pixel map in a memory. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the present invention, as defined by amended claim 1, is neither taught nor suggested by Cooper.

Min et al. discloses storing a single global header and an associated pixel map image in a memory. (Col. 7, lns. 33-65). The global header appears to contain the memory location of the entire pixel map. (Col. 7, lns. 54-60; Fig. 8). Min et al. also discloses storing a plurality of local headers where each local header is associated with a different region (i.e., sub pixel map) of the stored pixel map (Col. 7, lns. 33-65). Each local header appears to contain a memory location of a different region within the pixel map. (Col. 7, lns. 40-42 & 60-65; Fig. 9). Using this approach Min et al. teaches a process for displaying a pixel map having regions with different characteristics (e.g., highlights, size, color, and blend ratio). (Col 7, ln. 54 to Col. 8, ln

30; Figs. 7-10). To change a pixel map characteristic using the teachings of Min et al., either data in the global header or data in at least one local header must be changed. In other words, the Min et al. OSD management and control arrangement appears to be similar to the conventional arrangement shown in Figs. 3, 4 and 5 described on pages 7 and 8 of Applicants' application. More precisely, Min et al. teaches storing a single header and associated pixel map image (e.g., either a single global header and a pixel map or a single local header and a pixel map region) in an OSD section of memory and rewriting display characteristics of the single header to change the desired display of the associated pixel map image.

In contrast to Min et al., the present invention, as defined by amended claim 1, recites "storing a plurality of different headers associated with the pixel map in the memory, *each header containing the memory location of the pixel map* and a unique display characteristic." Min et al. does not appear to disclose storing a plurality of different headers associated with a pixel map image in memory where each header contains "*the memory location of the pixel map* and a unique display characteristic." This limitation is an important feature of Applicants' claimed invention since "storing a plurality of different headers associated with the pixel map in the memory, *each header containing the memory location of the pixel map* and a unique display characteristic" enables a system using the claimed invention to retrieve the desired pixel map and a header having the desired display characteristic from memory without having to rewrite the display characteristic of the header, as discussed in further detail on page 10 of Applicants' application. In fact Min et al. appears to teach away from Applicants' claimed invention by teaching the storage of a single header and associated pixel map image (e.g., either a single global header and a pixel map or a single local header and a pixel map region) in an OSD section of memory and the rewriting of a display characteristic of the single header to change the desired display of the associated pixel map image. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the present invention, as defined by amended claim 1, is neither taught nor suggested by Min et al.

As a result, it is respectfully submitted that Cooper and Min et al., alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest the "storing a plurality of different headers associated with the pixel map in the memory, *each header containing the memory location of the pixel*

*map* and a unique display characteristic" limitation of amended claim 1. Therefore, it is respectfully proposed that the rejection of claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is overcome in accordance with the above remarks and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Dependent claims 2-4, being dependent on and further limiting independent claim 1, should be allowable for that reason, as well as for the additional recitations that they contain. Therefore, it is respectfully proposed that the rejection of claims 2-4 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is overcome in accordance with the above remarks and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Independent claim 5 includes elements similar to the elements of amended independent claim 1 and should therefore be allowable for the same reasons discussed above as well as for the additional recitations contained therein. Therefore, it is respectfully proposed that the rejection of claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is overcome in accordance with the above remarks and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Dependent claims 6-11, being dependent on and further limiting independent claim 5, should be allowable for that reason, as well as for the additional recitations that they contain. Therefore, it is respectfully proposed that the rejection of claims 6-11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is overcome in accordance with the above remarks and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Independent claim 12, as amended, includes elements similar to the elements of independent claim 1 and should therefore be allowable for the same reasons discussed above as well as for the additional recitations contained therein. Therefore, it is respectfully proposed that the rejection of claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is overcome in accordance with the above remarks and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Dependent claims 13-14, being dependent on and further limiting independent claim 12, should be allowable for that reason, as well as for the additional recitations that they contain. Therefore, it is respectfully proposed that the rejection of claims 13-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is overcome in accordance with the above remarks and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Independent claim 15, as amended, includes elements similar to the elements of independent claim 1 and should therefore be allowable for the same reasons discussed above as well as for the additional recitations contained therein. Therefore, it is respectfully proposed that the rejection of claim 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is overcome in accordance with the above remarks and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

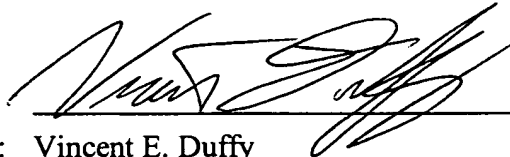
Dependent claims 16-20, being dependent on and further limiting independent claim 15, should be allowable for that reason, as well as for the additional recitations that they contain. Therefore, it is respectfully proposed that the rejection of claims 16-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is overcome in accordance with the above remarks and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Independent claim 21, as amended, includes elements similar to the elements of independent claim 1 and should therefore be allowable for the same reasons discussed above as well as for the additional recitations contained therein. Therefore, it is respectfully proposed that the rejection of claim 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is overcome in accordance with the above remarks and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Having fully addressed the Examiner's rejections it is believed that, in view of the preceding remarks, this application stands in condition for allowance. Accordingly then, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited. If, however, the Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is invited to contact the applicants' attorney at (317) 587-4019, so that a mutually convenient date and time for a telephonic interview may be scheduled.

No fees, other than those discussed above, are believed due. However, if a fee is due, please charge the additional fee to Deposit Account 07-0832.

Respectfully submitted,



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Patent Operations

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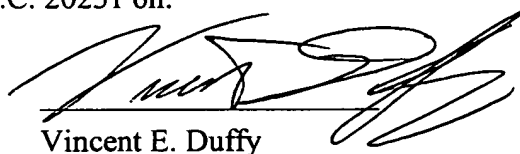
Princeton, New Jersey 08543-5312

November 1, 2003

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I hereby certify that this amendment is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231 on:

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Vincent E. Duffy